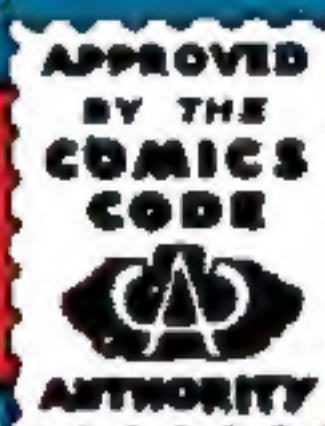


MASTER OF
KUNG FU

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™



25
FEB
02449

THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU



TM

TM



WILSON/SIMNOTT

A MARTIAL-ARTS MASTERPIECE!
FISTS OF FURY--
rites of DEATH!

"Call me Shang-Chi, as my *father* did, when he raised me and molded my mind and my body in the vacuum of his Honan, China, retreat. I learned many things from my father: That my name means "The Rising and Advancing of a Spirit," that my body could be forged into a living weapon through the discipline of kung fu, and that it might be used for the murder of a man called Dr. Petrie.

"Since then, I have learned that my father is **Dr. Fu Manchu**, the most insidiously evil man on earth... and that to *honor* him would bring nothing but *dishonor* to the spirit of my *name*."

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **MASTER OF KUNG FU!**™

DOUG MOENCH / PAUL GULACY / SAL TRAPANI / JON COSTANZA, letters / ROY THOMAS
THOUGHT VISION STRENGTH BILL MANTLO, colors GUIDANCE





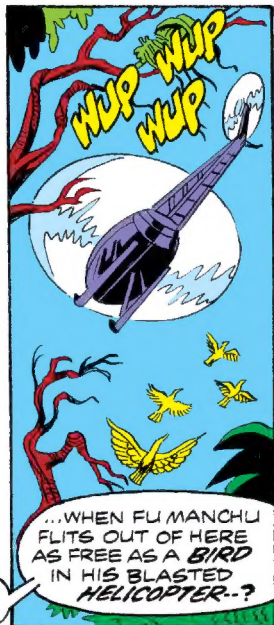
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE ACCOUNTANTS IN **SCOTLAND YARD**, **BLACK JACK**-- THEY'RE PREPARED TO FINANCE ANY OPERATION DESIGNED TO CURTAIL **FU MANCHU'S** INSIDIOUS ACTIVITIES...



...AND CONSIDERING WE *COULD* HAVE BEEN SHIPPED OUT OF HERE IN **PINE BOXES**--

--JUST BE THANKFUL WE'RE ABLE TO WALK TO THE AIR-STRIP.

THANKFUL, SIR...?

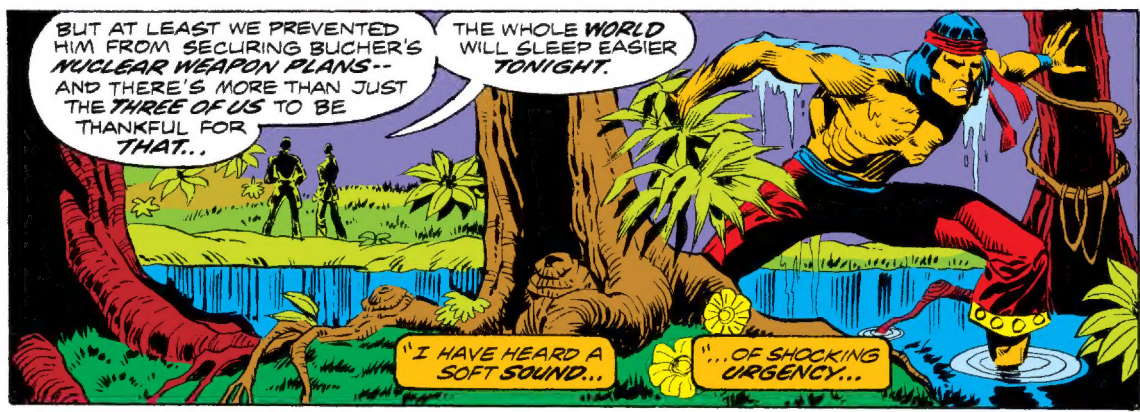


WUP WUP WUP

...WHEN **FU MANCHU** FLITS OUT OF HERE AS FREE AS A **BIRD** IN HIS BLASTED **HELICOPTER**--?



THAT CIRCUMSTANCE GALLS ME AS MUCH AS **YOU**, **BLACK JACK**-- AND I'D GIVE MY **RIGHT ARM** TO BRING THAT FIEND CRASHING DOWN IN **FLAME**--!



BUT AT LEAST WE PREVENTED HIM FROM SECURING **BUCHER'S NUCLEAR WEAPON PLANS**-- AND THERE'S MORE THAN JUST THE **THREE OF US** TO BE THANKFUL FOR **THAT**...

THE WHOLE WORLD WILL SLEEP EASIER TONIGHT.

"I HAVE HEARD A SOFT SOUND..."

"...OF SHOCKING URGENCY..."



IF THE WORLD KNEW ABOUT IT, SIR DENIS... AND IF I KNOW **YOU**, THERE WON'T BE ANY **PRESS CONFERENCES** WHEN WE GET **BACK**.

WE CAN DISCUSS THAT AS WE **MOVE**, **BLACK JACK**.

COME ALONG, **SHANG-CHI**...

LAD...?



NO USE **WAITIN'** FOR HIM, SIR DENIS. THAT **CHINAMAN** PULLS MORE VANISHING ACTS THAN **CLAUDE RAINS**.

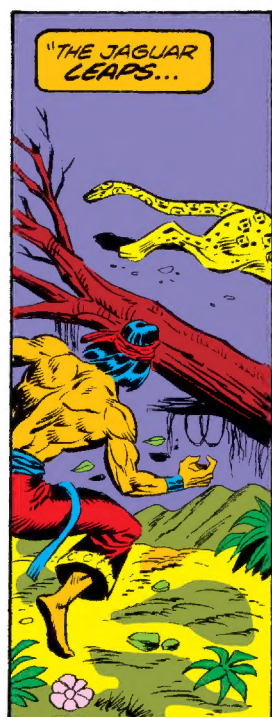
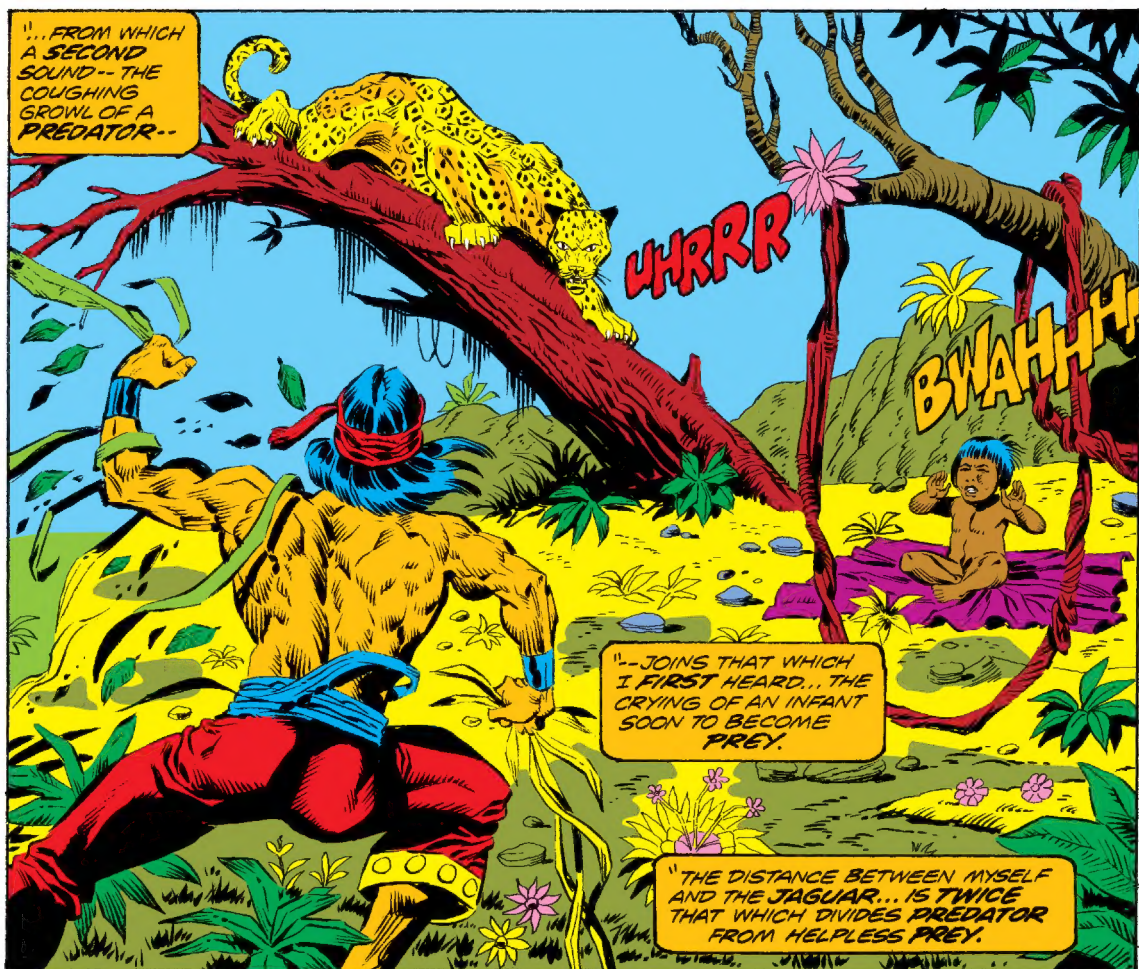
YES, BUT FOR **GOOD REASON**, OLD FRIEND...

...ALWAYS FOR **GOOD REASON**.



"... AND THERE HAS NOT BEEN TIME TO INFORM **SMITH** AND HIS AIDE THAT I MUST PURSUE THAT SOUND."

"AHEAD-- A CLEARING..."



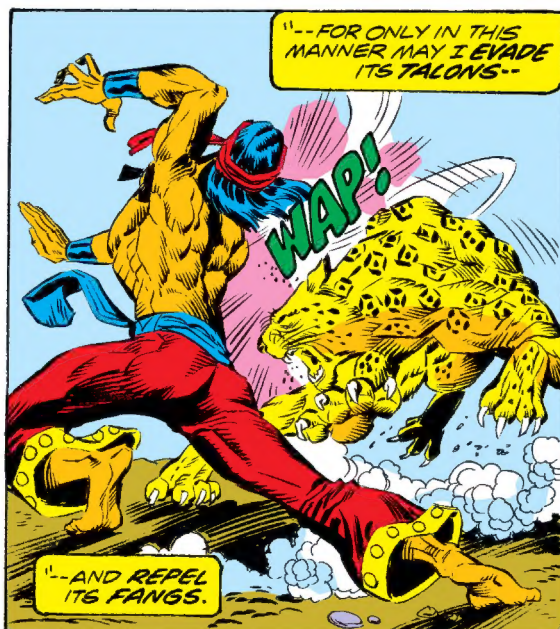


"-- WHICH DEFLECTS ITS LUNGE FROM A PATH OF SWIFT TRAGEDY.



"HAH! THE CAT IS FILLED WITH ANGER NOW. I MUST BECOME THE CAT, MOVING AS IT MOVES...

"...DODGING AS IT STRIKES--



"-- FOR ONLY IN THIS MANNER MAY I EVADE ITS TALONS--

WAP!

"-- AND REPEL ITS FANGS.

"I HAVE AVOIDED THE USE OF MY FIST, FOR I DO NOT WISH TO HARM THIS ANIMAL.

"IT IS NOT A MAN...

"...AND THEREFORE SEEKS DEATH NOT IN BRUTALITY--



"-- BUT MERELY IN THE CAUSE OF INNOCENT HUNGER.

"THUS, IT IS A DELICATE STRUGGLE ... FOR NEITHER IS THE INFANT A MAN-- AND ITS INNOCENCE TRANSCENDS HUNGER.

"I EXECUTE
MANEUVERS BASED
SOLELY UPON THE
FUNDAMENTALS
OF DEFENSE..."



"...AND WHILE I
ADHERE TO THE
DISCIPLINE OF
TAO-- THE ABILITY
TO ANTICIPATE
THE FLOW OF AN
OPPONENT'S AT-
TACK--"



"--I DO NOT FREE
MY MIND OF
THOUGHT..."



"FOR I MUST
REMAIN CON-
SCIOUS THAT MY
PURPOSE IS NOT
TO INFLICT INJURY..."



"...BUT, RATHER,
EXHAUSTION."



"THE JAGUAR
SNARLS, AS
THOUGH TO
PRELUDE
ANOTHER
ATTACK..."

ROWRR

"NO, IT WAS MERELY TO VOICE
THE FACT THAT ITS RETREAT IS
NOT ROOTED IN COWARDICE..."



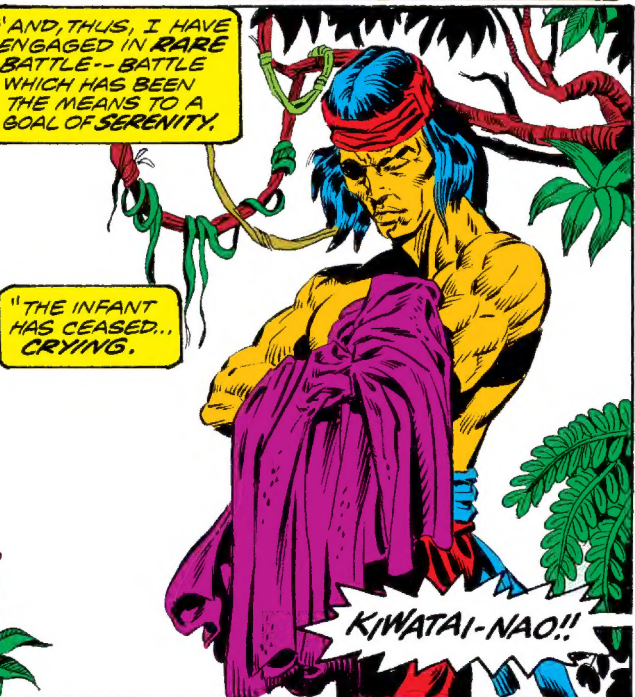
"IT SLINKS AWAY, DISINTERESTED IN
CONFLICT WHICH DOES NOT PROMISE THE
TASTE OF BLOOD. IT IS FREE OF A MAN'S
SENSE OF MISPLACED PRIDE."

"FREE, TOO, OF A MAN'S
COMPASSION."



"AND, THUS, I HAVE
ENGAGED IN RARE
BATTLE-- BATTLE
WHICH HAS BEEN
THE MEANS TO A
GOAL OF SERENITY."

"THE INFANT
HAS CEASED...
CRYING."

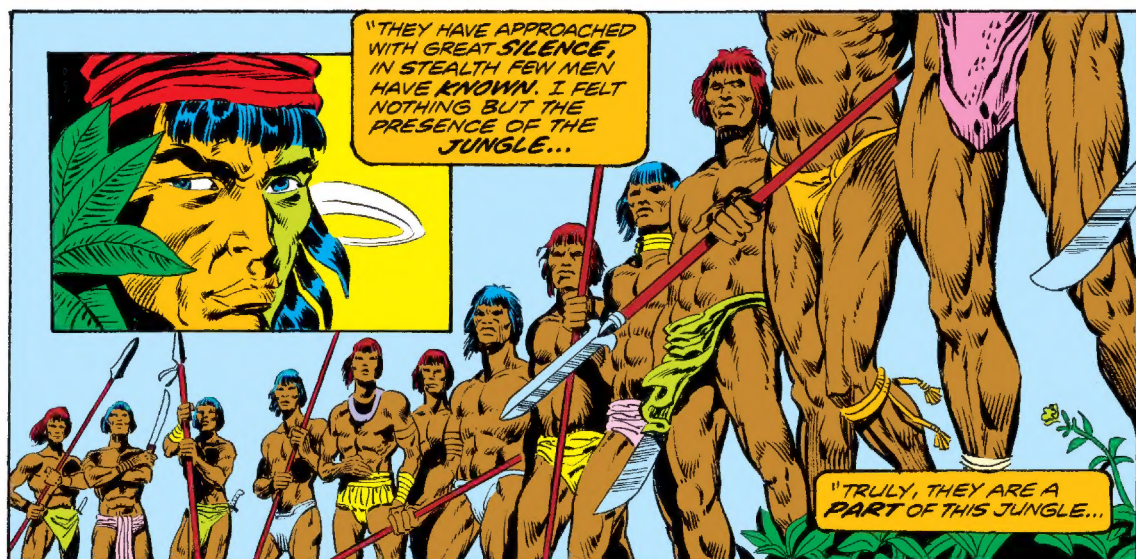


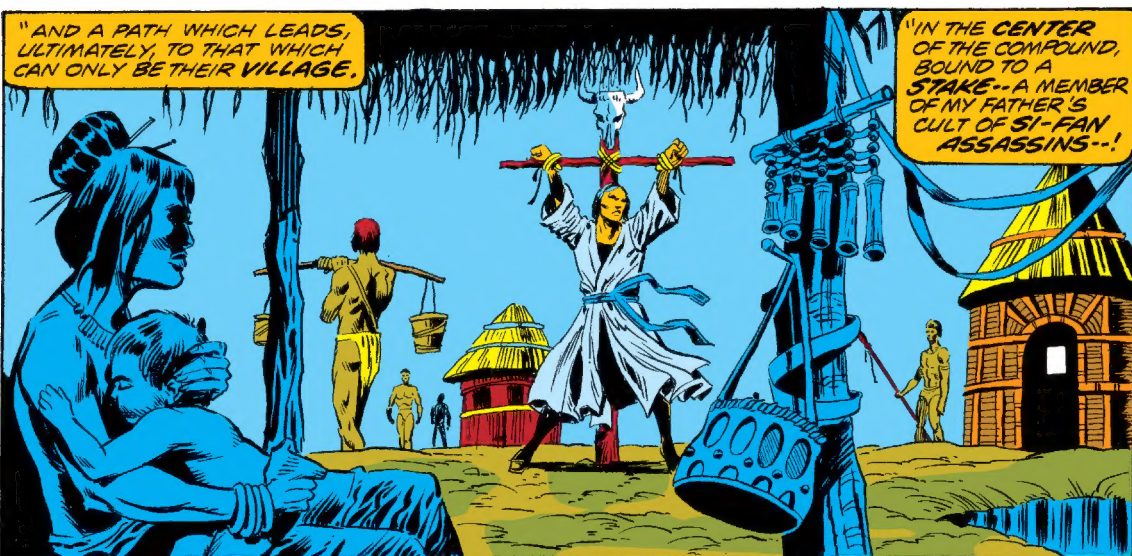
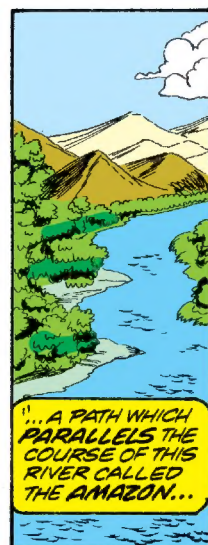
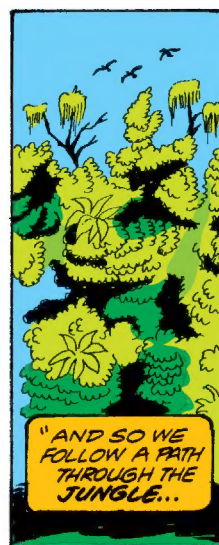
KIWATAI-NAO!!

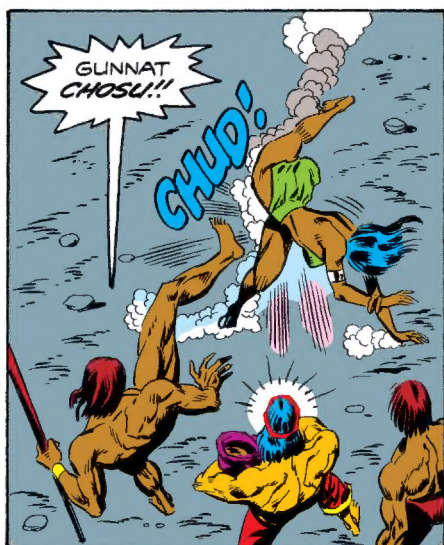
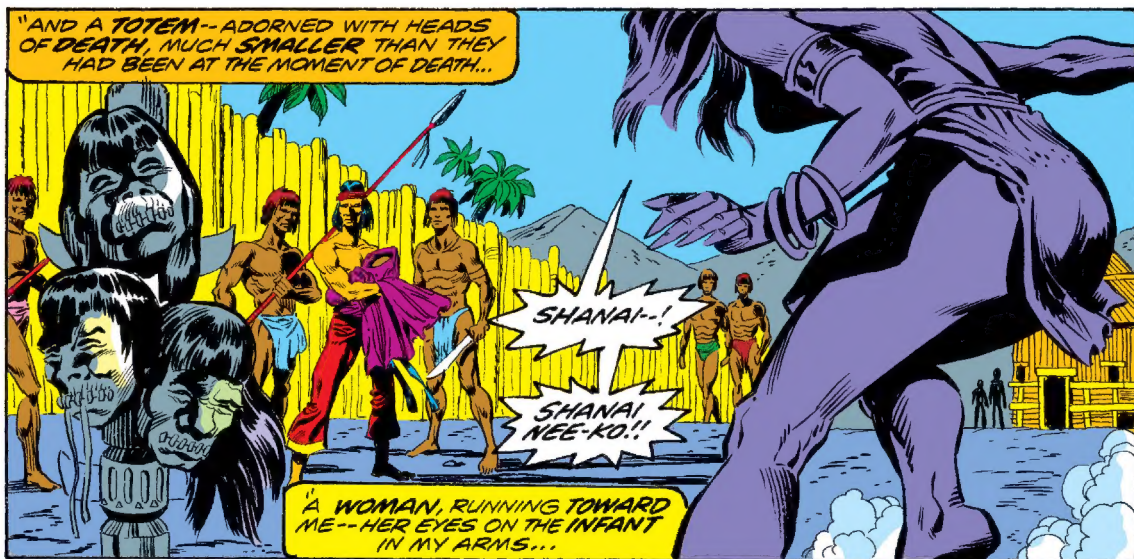


AWRKK

**GOO...
GOO...
KAI!**







"A MAN OF APPARENT
AUTHORITY BEGINS TO
SPEAK, BUT HIS
WORDS ARE MET
WITH DEFIANCE FROM
ANOTHER. THEY
ARGUE.



MY APPEARANCE
NEAR THIS VILLAGE
WAS A **BAD OMEN**--
TO THE JIVAROS--
THEY BELIEVED IT
CORROBORATED
THEIR SUPER-
STITIONS...



...BUT YOUR **RESCUE**
OF THE CHILD HAS
DIVIDED THEM INTO
TWO FACTIONS. ONE
LED BY THE **CHIEF**,
BELIEVES YOU MIGHT
BE AN **EMISSARY**
SENT BY THE GODS...

...THE **OTHER** FACTION IS
LED BY THE CHIEF'S
AMBITIOUS **RIVAL**--
WHO CLAIMS YOU'RE
NOTHING BUT A FOREIGN
INTERLOPER. THEY'RE
PREPARING A TEST--
A **GAUNTLET**-- TO
SETTLE THE DISPUTE.



AND IF
I **FAIL**,
SI-FAN?

THE CHILD WILL
DIE, AND YOU
SHALL JOIN ME
IN SLOW **TORTURE**...

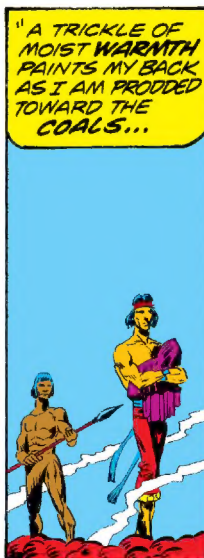
...AFTER WHICH
OUR SHRUNKEN
HEADS WILL HANG IN
TESTIMONY TO THEIR TRIUMPH.

"LONG **HOURS** HAVE PASSED,
IN WHICH THE JIVAROS HAVE
HEATED A BED OF **COALS**...



"...AND IN WHICH
I HAVE PREPARED
MYSELF THROUGH
MEDITATION.

"A TRICKLE OF
MOIST **WARMTH**
PAINTS MY BACK
AS I AM PRODDED
TOWARD THE
COALS...



"I AM
READY.

"MY MIND IS
CALM...



"...IN FULL
CONTROL
OF MY
FEET...



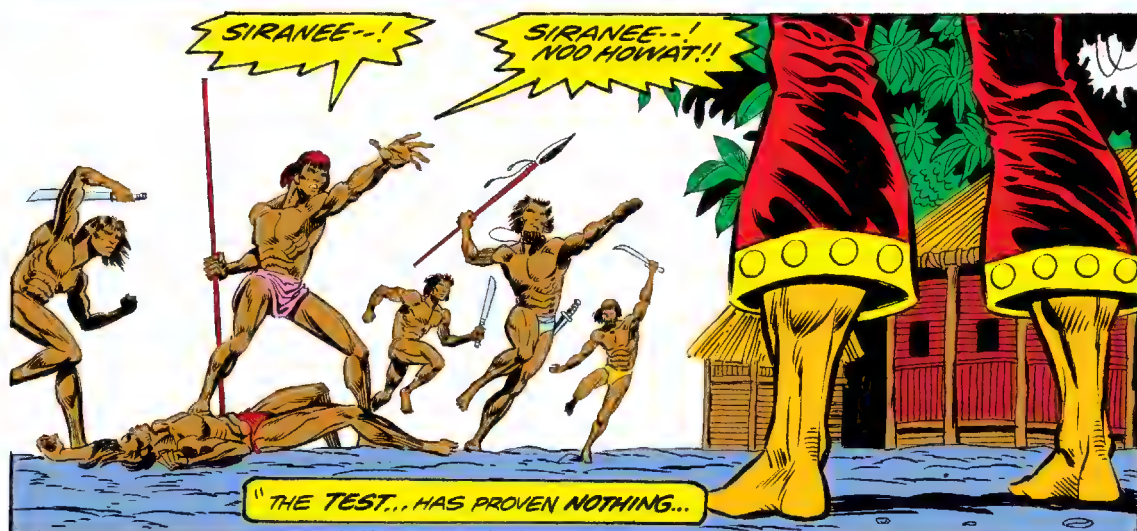
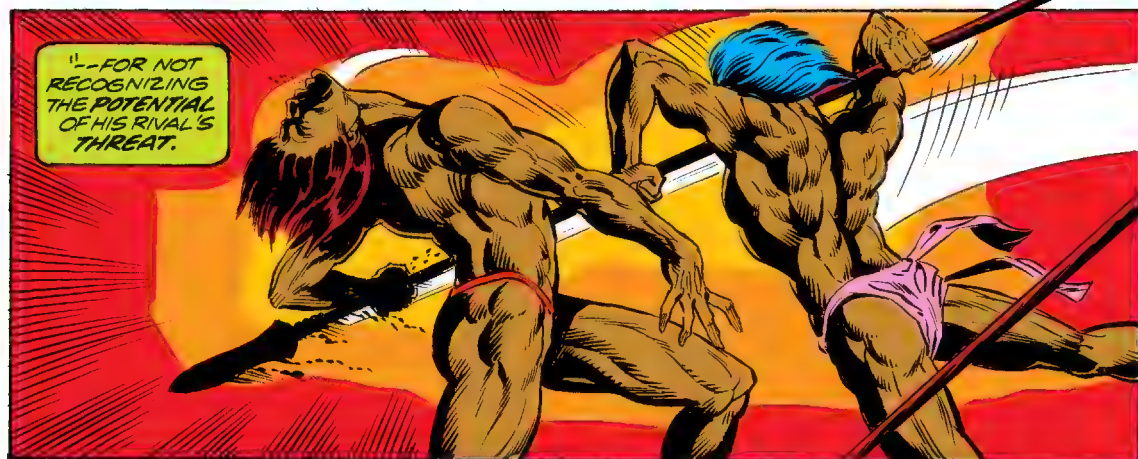
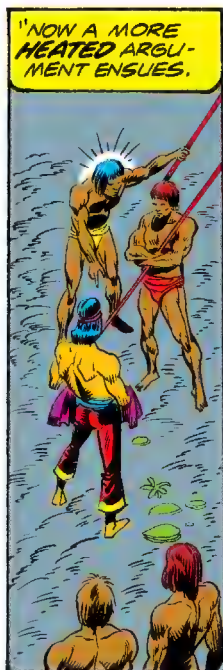
"FOR I MUST
REMAIN AS
SILENT--

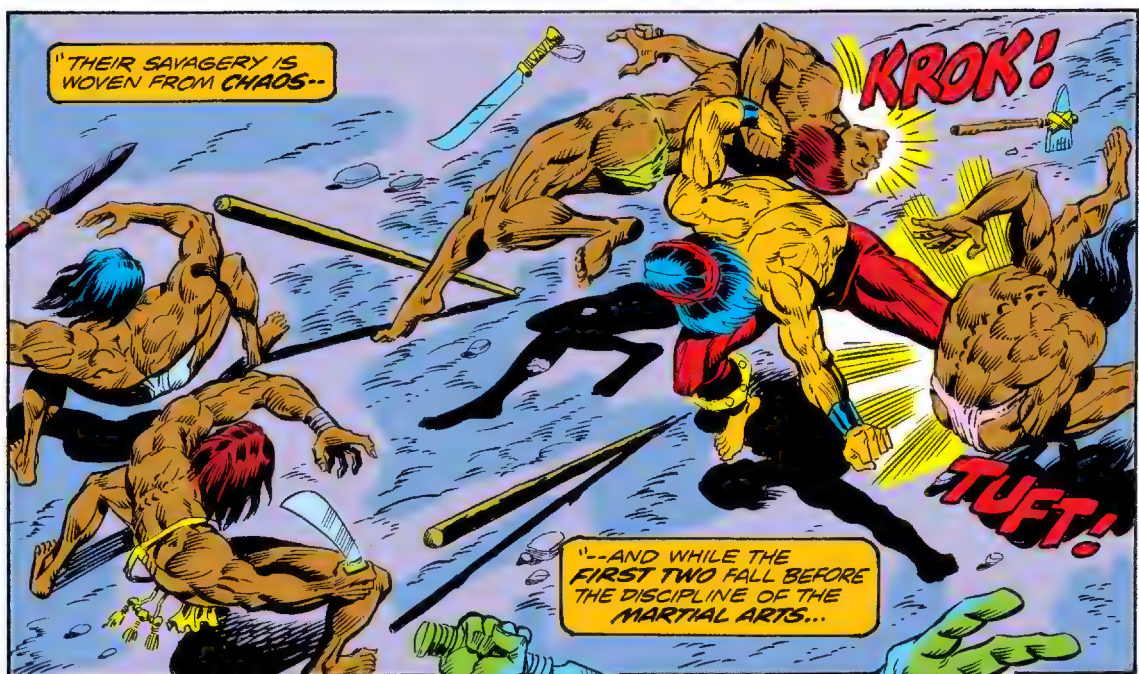


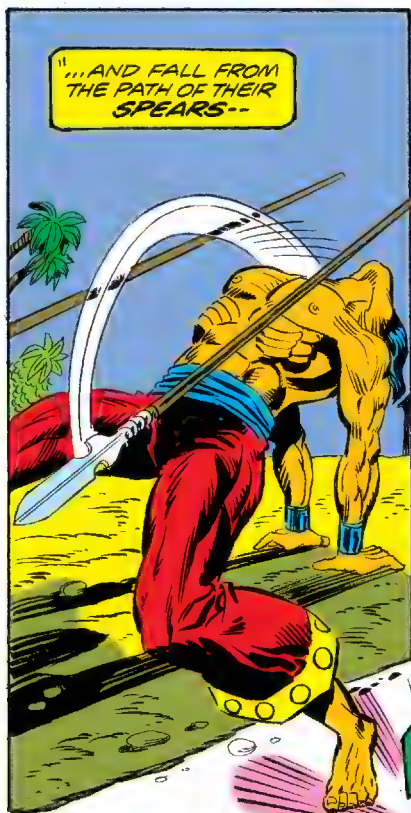
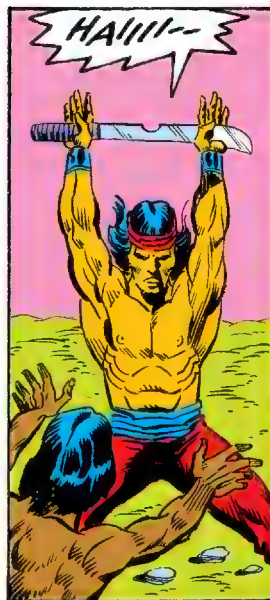
"--AS THE
SLUMBERING
INFANT.



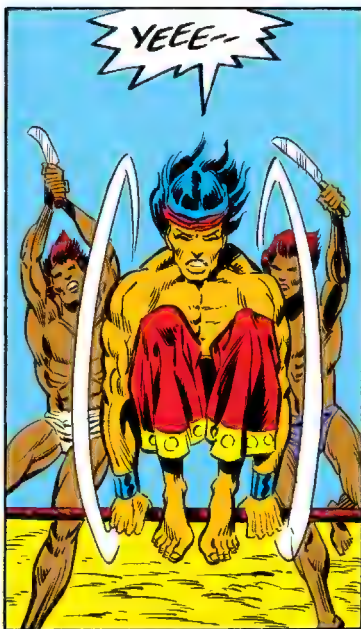
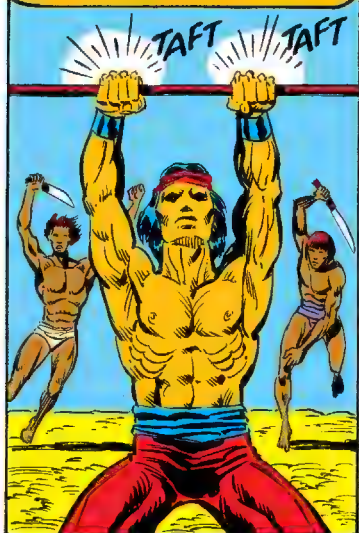








"GUIDED WITH **POOR** AIM, THE SPEAR IS OF NO DANGER TO ME, BUT PLUCKED FROM THE AIR..."



"THE REMAINING JIVAROS CHOOSE TO ATTACK IN **FORCE**."



"BUT UNLIKE BLADES OF GRASS TOUCHED BY A COMMON WIND, THEY DO NOT MOVE IN UNISON..."



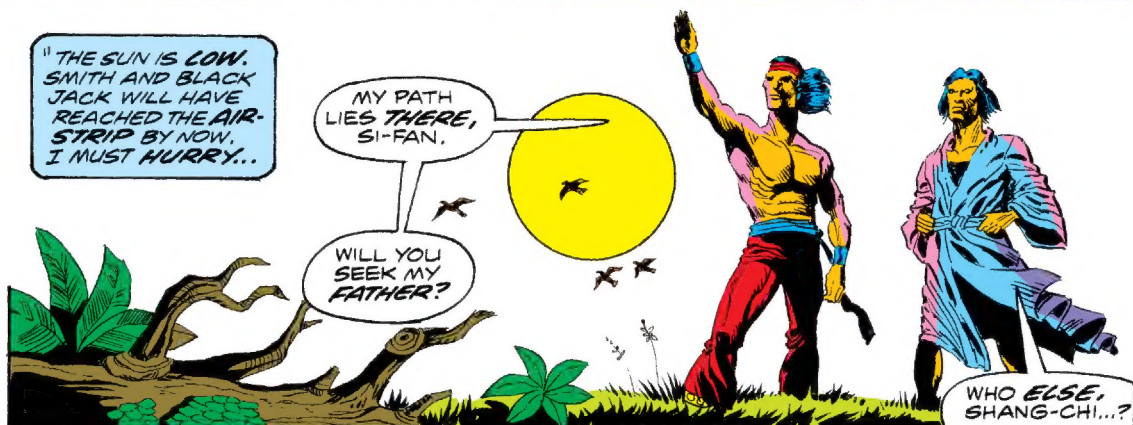
"INSTEAD, THEY ARE THE WAVES OF AN OCEAN IN **STORM**-- CLASHING, AND DROWNING ONE ANOTHER'S FURY..."

"AND I BECOME THE
STORM, CHANNELING
ITS FORCE INTO THE RANKS
OF **CHAOS**... TRANSFORM-
ING THEIR **NUMBERS** INTO
SELF-IMPOSED **BARRIERS**...

"... STRIKING AS THE
LIGHTNING STRIKES...

"... AND WHIRLING
AS THE **WIND**...





Shadowcat

